

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8590

S E C R E T USUN 6041

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UNGA MO SP SS
SUBJ: KHMER IN 29TH UNGA: MOROCCO

REF: RABAT 6065

1. JUST FOR THE RECORD, THERE ARE TWO COMMENTS WE WISH TO MAKE ON REFTTEL: FIRST, IF MOROCCANS WERE DISSATISFIED WITH AMB. WHITE'S STATEMENT IN FOURTH COMITE CONCERNING SPANISH SAHARA, THEY GAVE NO INDICATION OF THEIR DISSATISFACTION AT THE TIME. ON THE CONTRARY, PERMREP SLAOUI EXPRESSED HIS COMPLETE SATISFACTION AND WENT TO THE EXTENT OF TURNING AROUND IN HIS SEAT AND GIVING A BIG SMILE AND WINK OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT WHICH, FRANKLY, WAS RATHER EMBARRASSING. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THE STATEMENT COULD HAVE UNDONE THE GOOD FLOWING FROM THE VOTE SINCE, IN FACT, THE STATEMENT WAS MADE BEFORE THE VOTE. SECONDLY, THERE WAS NO MISTAKE ON THE TRANSLATION. EVEN FOR A NON-SPEAKER OF FRENCH, THE WORDS "ABSOLUMENT" AND "COMLETEMENT" COULD NOT BE TOO BADLY ABUSED IN INTERPRETATION. THESE WERE THE WORDS LARAKI USED WITH AMBASSADOR SCALI, WITH AN INTERPRETER, TO DESCRIBE THE EXTENT TO WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT BELIEVED US HAD FULFILLED ITS OBLIGATION CONCERNING SPANISH SAHARA. IT IS ASHAME THAT WE CANNOT USE THE SAME WORDS IN ENGLISH OR FRENCH TO DESCRIBE MOROCCO'S FULFILLMENT OF ITS IMPLICIT OBLIGATION CONCERNING KHMER.

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2. IF TIME HAD ALLOWED, MISSION COULD HAVE REQUESTED EMBASSY

RABAT'S ASSISTANCE ON THE MATTER. ZAIMI'S INFORMATION TO US CONCERNING HIS INSTRUCTIONS, HOWEVER, WAS RELAYED ONLY THIRTY MINUTES BEFORE VOTE WAS HELD AND OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE PHONE CONTACT, AS REPORTED USUN 6001, WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL.

3. WHILE WE AGREE THAT MATTER IS BEST CLOSED, WE DO HAVE ONE FINAL COMMENT CONCERNING RELATIVE COST INVOLVED. BASICALLY, WHILE THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MOST IMPORTANT INTEREST, I.E., KHMER, WAS SERVED, WE WOULD QUERY AS TO WHETHER COST WAS NOT GREATER TO US IN ITS RELATIONS WITH SPAIN THAN WAS COST TO MOROCCANS FOR THEIR POSITION ON KHMER.
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